



The Pipeline

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CFC Foster Parents Honored

By Margaret Davis Harney, CFC Communications

May is National Foster Care Month, a time to build public awareness of the needs of foster children and to recognize dedicated foster parents. The Cabinet for Families and Children held a reception at historic Berry Hill Mansion May 8 to honor foster parents from across the state.

Excellence in Service Awards were presented to an outstanding foster parent or foster couple from each of CFC's 16 regions. Recipients were selected by local staff. Two couples and two individuals also received Lifetime of Service Awards, presented in appreciation to all foster parents with at least 35 years service.

First Lady Judi Patton joined Secretary Viola Miller in presenting the awards.

A display at the Capitol rotunda will continue to honor all award recipients throughout May.

Approximately 6,000 Kentucky children are cared for in CFC's foster care program each year, many of them because of abuse or neglect in the biological home.

CFC Online Features Child Abuse Prevention

By Margaret Davis Harney, CFC Communications

In recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, the April issue of *CFC Online*, <http://cfc.state.ky.us/cfconline/2001/april/index.htm> features programs and agencies that help fight child abuse.

Contents include the following and much more:

- * Kentucky Family Courts help keep children safe;
- * Kentucky receives \$2.5 million federal grant to combat child sexual abuse; more than half will go to local Child Advocacy Centers;
- * In-school program, Child Assault Prevention, teaches children to protect themselves;
- * Community partners include Northern Kentucky's Family Nurturing Center and Frankfort's Sunshine Center;
- * Special cameras and forensics program help document abuse;
- * Online brochure for parents: *When Your Child Is Removed From Your Home*.

The next issue will focus on foster care and adoptions. If you have taken advantage of the employee adoption benefit, and would like to be featured in that issue, contact *CFC Online* editor, [Margaret Davis Harney](mailto:Margaret.Davis@ky.gov).

See <http://cfc.state.ky.us/cfconline/index.htm> for quick access to all issues of *CFC Online*.



Employees Salute Each Other

During Employee Recognition Week, on

Wednesday May 9 employees had an opportunity to send an e-mail greeting honoring or recognizing someone they work with, or for, or who works for them. The following folks were recognized. Give them a hand!



- .. The Ombudsman Office Staff for always being supportive of any of my endeavors - Bobbie Walters.
- .. Debra Powell for being a BIG HELP to everyone in the office - Jean Herrell.
- .. Ginger Travis for always being helpful - Betty Whitehouse.
- .. Dean Crawford, Bobbie Walters, Millie Higgins, Donna Carr, Bonnie Skufca for helping to make Employee Recognition Week a huge success. They REALLY care!!! They know how to have fun! - Teresa Suter.
- .. Amanda Robinson for having a willing spirit to work intra-agency to assist with MARS problems - Wilma Morris.
- .. Thomas Franklin for being such a positive influence in the office - Donna Satterly.
- .. Barbara Brown for always being polite, up-beat, and friendly - Jean Kendell.
- .. Linda McDonald for being so helpful and calm. She makes errors easy to correct - Gloria Kidd.
- .. Betty Caudle because she is always ready to help in any way she can. She's one of the most dependable employees I know - Margaret Erickson.
- .. Gina Sansone is a great boss and problem solver - Patricia Aldridge.
- .. Steve Ellis is a very fair supervisor. He always is looking for the good about everything - Ellen Downey and Jackie Wells.
- .. QCC CORE group and the OMBUDSMAN staff because they have gone above and beyond at

assisting with the activities during Public Employee Recognition Week - Bobbie Walters.

- .. Annie Beasley for keeping up morale - (anonymously).
- .. Wanda Carr because she takes care of the whole branch.... always! - Mary Gaetz.
- .. Sheila Jesse because she is a very hard dedicated worker, and special person - Kim Young.
- .. Cat Gayheart, JoAnn Dale, and Lynn Stivers because they work very hard - Pat Haydon.
- .. Pat Haydon for being a great understanding supervisor - JoAnn Dale.
- .. Phyllis Anderson who is a kind, wonderful, considerate person and boss - Carolyn Osborne.
- .. Ombudsman's office staff for their hard work and dedication - Nancy Ovesen.
- .. Nancy Ovesen for being a wonderful boss!! - Julie Cubert.
- .. Julie Cubert for her great attitude, tireless effort, and for being a great role model! - Bobbie Walters.
- .. Jill Darbyshire for being a very diplomatic and understanding supervisor - Barbara Brown.

Direct Deposit: Sign Up Today!

It's vacation time again... where are you headed? The beach? The mountains? Out west? Or maybe across the ocean to Europe! No matter WHERE you go, or WHEN you go, if you have DIRECT DEPOSIT, you won't have to worry about your paycheck... cross it off your list, because your money will be in the bank!

DON'T FORGET: If you initiate Direct Deposit between May 1st and June 15th, you'll receive a beautifully embossed checkbook cover sent directly to your home.

SIGN UP TODAY!! See your personnel or payroll liaison for a paper form, or click here: <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/personnel/upps15w.doc>



Protecting Children: Working and Learning Together

The Cabinet for Families and Children has issued a status report on our child protection services entitled [Protecting Children: Working and Learning Together](#). It explores both strengths and weaknesses of those services, and it highlights our continuous efforts to improve them.

Our report also responds to concerns expressed by Kentucky Youth Advocates (KYA), a nonprofit children's advocacy organization.

In a recent report entitled "Warning Signs," KYA questions the adequacy of the money and staffing the state devotes to child protection. It also asks whether the Cabinet's child protection policies, and even its reform efforts, may unintentionally place children at risk.

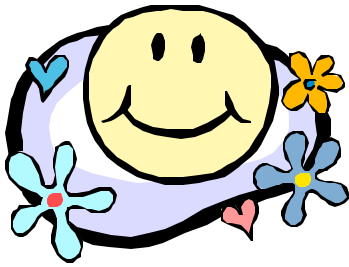
The KYA report has generated considerable publicity. While the Cabinet disagrees with some of the report's claims, it also welcomes the attention KYA has drawn to child protection and the comprehensive changes we are trying to implement.

CFC's report is online at <http://cfc.state.ky.us/cfconline/protectingchildren/index.htm>

Yoga Class

Yoga Class meets on Wednesdays from 4:45-6:00 p.m. in the CHR cafeteria. For more information, please contact Julia Rome, instructor, at 227-7434.





A Special Thanks from Bobbie Walters

From May 7–11, we celebrated public employee recognition week. On Tuesday, May 8 and Wednesday, May 9, Quality Central Connections sponsored several events. As chairman of the committee, I want to let everyone know how helpful people on these committees were. Each and every time there was something that needed to be done, I would send a request on email. Within a few minutes, I would get a reply volunteering for whatever was needed. I think everyone at Quality Central benefited from this shared experience.

I would like to thank the following people for making the events last week successful: Sheree Combs, Millie Higgins, Dean Crawford, Dave Jurek, Lane Kemp, Bonnie Skufca, Rose Pennington, Jackie Wells, Dora Kerns, Sarah Bradford, Jim Griffin, Eric Barnes, Donna Carr, Rodney Moore, Gretchen Marshall, Julie Cubert, Randy Luttrell, Darryl Greenburg, Nancy Ovesen, Carla Vinegar, Betsy Noland and James Mason. This list does not include those wonderful people in leadership who served the food or the cafeteria people who were more than willing to take care of whatever we requested. Teresa Suter, who never gets enough credit for the help she gives to each of us, was always there to lend a hand. And I would be remiss not mentioning the people who donated baked goods for the cake walk. I hope I have not forgotten anyone but PLEASE let me apologize ahead of time if I did. It is not that some people are easy to forget but that there were so many volunteering so quickly that I could not keep track of them all. Give yourselves a pat on the back for a job well done. Thanks again.

Bobbie Walters
CFC Office of the Ombudsman

Bracken County Supervisor Wins Grannis Award for 2000

By Mike Jennings, CFC Communications

Bracken County's Debbie Estill has received the Cabinet for Families and Children's 13th annual Paul T. Grannis Memorial Award for her expertise and success in out-of-home placements.

Estill began her career with the Cabinet in 1976, and is now a Family Services Office Supervisor in Gateway/Bufalo Trace, one of the Cabinet's 16 service regions. She is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University.

She has supervised workers in two counties, involved herself in the community by serving on numerous boards and developed training packages for a local mental health agency.

Estill is closely involved in the court system, and is relied upon by a District Judge for advice and direction.

She is known for following her heart to meet the needs of children, working many hours and traveling many miles to accomplish whatever is in their best interest.

Estill strives to ensure that services are blended to cover the full range of families' needs. She has done everything in her power to make sure that two of the Cabinet for Families and Children's main service arms—Family Support and Protection and Permanency—function seamlessly.

The Grannis Award is the Cabinet's highest tribute to front-line staff members of its Department of Community Based Services. It was founded in honor of Paul T. Grannis, who was killed in Fleming County in 1987 while investigating a child-abuse case.

"He literally made the ultimate sacrifice for the protection of children," Cabinet Secretary Viola Miller said during an award ceremony May 21 in Frankfort.

Along with the Grannis Award, Commissioners Awards are bestowed annually on service workers from the Cabinet's service regions. Collectively, the award winners are recognized for their own superior work, "yet they also represent all Protection and Permanency staff that give so much of themselves so that others can live safely and securely," Miller said.

The Commissioners Award winners for 2000 are:

- .. Barren River: **Mike Pierce**, Social Service Clinician in Warren County.
- .. Big Sandy: **Delphia Branham**, Family Support Office Supervisor in Pike County.
- .. Bluegrass Region: **Sarah Gibbs**, Family Services Office Supervisor in Woodford County.
- .. Cumberland Valley: **Marti Allen**, Social Services Clinician in Clay County.
- .. Fayette: **Heather Rodgers**, Social Services Worker.
- .. FIVCO: **Vivian Bond**, Social Services Worker in Carter County.
- .. Green River: **Summer Daum**, Family Services Worker in Daviess County.
- .. Jefferson: **Laretta Barton Herd**, Social Worker for a domestic violence team.
- .. Kentucky River: **Angela Neely**, Social Services Worker in Breathitt County.
- .. KIPDA/Salt River: **Tina Smith**, Social Services Worker Clinician in Henry County.
- .. Lake Cumberland: **Melissa Gilpin Dudley**, Social Services Clinician in Casey County.
- .. Lincoln Trail: **Daminda Crawford**, Family Support Office Supervisor in Larue County.
- .. Northern Kentucky: **Margaret Sue Rowland**, Social Services Chief in Kenton County.
- .. Pennyryle: **Tamatha Green**, Social Services Worker in Hopkins County.
- .. Purchase: **Cassandra Agnew**, Social Services Worker in Graves County.